October 26, 2006

Virtual High School Advisory Council

1) Mary Stadick-Smith & Jacci Carey reviewed the website
   a. The site provides 3 areas of access: Students/parents, Educators, Providers
   b. Educators and providers will be the only persons with log-in access
   c. Discussion centered on the fields in the course searches
      i. Course
      ii. Content area
      iii. Time Frame
      iv. Description – critical for a good description!
      v. **Need to add provider on the course search**
   d. Tabs were reviewed for educators and providers and suggestions were made
   e. Student management tab discussed in length to include which students are taking courses/classes
      i. Need to include historical information as well as current information
      ii. Useful for statewide information
      iii. Useful for analyzing district data
   f. Notes from Mary
      i. Homepage -- get rid of the color and list of tabs under "Students/Parents" tab -- the tabs should only pop up when you do a roll-over with your mouse or when you click on it (same thing for the "Educators" and "Provider" tabs
      ii. Course search on home page -- should there be a dropdown box and you get to choose how you search, then we could use the rest of the space for more timely items
      iii. When you search by course (under Students/Parents and probably other places), add a field that lists the Provider, so users can distinguish between similar courses. Also, if a course is full, does it come up but with a note indicating that it's full? Somehow we need to show that it's full.
      iv. In the Scholarship section under Students/Parents, add Hagen-Harvey Scholarship and Robert C. Byrd Scholarship. We will provide info later, but list them now.
      v. Under Students/Parents section, when you click on Graduation Requirements, link should go directly to the PDF. Eliminate the step in between. However, in the Educator tab, add a Graduation Requirements tab and have it link first to the DOE/ATQ page and from there they click on the PDF.
      vi. When districts actually log into the system, they want to be able to view their participating students by school/attendance center not the entire district (or maybe there should be the option to view both ways? By district and by school?)
      vii. Within the district log-in area, change the tab "Student Management" to "Student Roster"

        viii. Consider the possibility of getting some Guidance Central information (or more general career planning stuff) on the homepage with a link to whatever?

        ix. Can we make the "student roster" section more like a student management system ?

2) Michelle Mehlberg gave an update on the APEX advanced placement courses

    a. State pays for APEX AP classes for PUBLIC schools only at the cost of $350/semester for successful completion (C or higher) and district if they don't complete with success

    b. College Board is tightening their requirements to make sure courses are actually AP courses

    c. Discussed the need for data collection on the AP courses

    d. Last year there were 113 students total – around a dozen that withdrew or completed with less than a C grade

    e. Discussion centered around funding for these courses and equity issues

        i. APEX courses will be included in the general listing

        ii. The provider link on these courses will explain the public vs. private issues, MOA, and other issues

3) Middle school courses

    a. There have been requests from outside districts regarding middle school

    b. The discussion was the ability for middle school students being able to handle virtual learning

    c. However, it was determined it was not this group's right to determine IF the students could handle these courses

    d. The decision was made to allow these courses to be part of the catalog

4) Rubric update

    a. All courses from RC have been approved and there are a few left from DIAL

    b. The scoring will be updated to assure they can meet the required score

5) District responsibility form

    a. Give rationale for denial of courses – the goal is NOT to limit

        i. Can't deny based on public school exemption

    b. Language should be consistent throughout the agreement to attendance center

        i. The top part of the district responsibilities form

            1. When the username and password comes forward, they will check that they have read and agreed to the language within

            2. Until funding issue is leveled, then there will be added district responsibility

    c. The second part of the form will be required for each course that is registered to indicate TO provider who will be accountable for

course approval, registration, monitoring progress and proctoring OR is this a possible duplication of efforts? **-** This information will be provided by the provider themselves

6) Discussion was held about an intro class to online classes and perhaps requiring that in the future
7) Next meeting dates:
   a. December 7